

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gary Abelev on December 13, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 19 and 20.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is in the opinion of the examiner that the art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious "correcting the at least one processing condition using:

$$C(i) = C0(i)*(I+T(T2(i,k)*(S(k)/S0(k)-l))), \quad (i = I-L, k = I-N),$$

where $C(i)$ ($i = I-L$) are correction values for respective processing conditions, where $C0(i)$ is an initialization value, where $T2(i,k)$ ($i = I-L, k = I-N$) is an influence function matrix which indicates a relation between a deviation of a measured state variable to a reference value and a correction amount of the at least one processing condition, where $S(k)$ ($k = I-N$) is a state variable, where $S0(k)$ ($k = I-N$) is a reference state variable, where L is a number of processing condition set values, and where N is a number of the state variable" in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations set forth in the independent claim.

Searching by the Examiner yielded prior art as cited in the previous Office Actions.

Based on Applicant's arguments and the Examiner's review of the Office Action mailed on August 3, 2010, the subject matter is deemed to be allowable. Further explanation can be reviewed in the Applicant's arguments filed on November 3, 2010. Therefore, it is concluded by the examiner that claims 11-18 and 21-23 of the present invention are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Teresa Ekiert whose telephone number is 571-272-1901. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Friday 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dana Ross can be reached on 571-272-4480. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Teresa M. Ekiert/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3725